

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please add or amend the claims to read as follows, and cancel without prejudice or disclaimer to resubmission in a divisional or continuation application claims indicated as cancelled:

1. (Currently amended) Adsorbent compositions for removing pesticides like chlorpyrifos, malathion and other organo halogen/sulphur pesticides comprising metallic gold/silver nanoparticles having a size [[upto]] which is not more than 150 nm deposited on activated alumina and/or magnesia, wherein said metallic gold/silver nanoparticles are prepared by:
 - (a) diluting silver nitrate or $\text{HAuCl}_4 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ in water;
 - (b) heating;
 - (c) adding a sodium citrate solution;
 - (d) heating; and
 - (e) loading silver and gold nanoparticles on activated alumina and/or magnesia.
2. (cancelled)
3. (currently amended) Adsorbent compositions as claimed in claim [[2]] 1, wherein said activated alumina and/or other substrates magnesia are in the various forms such as globules and powder.
4. (currently amended) Adsorbent compositions as claimed in claim [[2]] 1, wherein the metallic silver and gold nanoparticles are used along with activated carbon in all compositions.
5. (Withdrawn) A device for decontaminating water contaminated with pesticides like chlorpyrifos, malathion or other organo halogen/sulphur pesticides which comprises a housing loaded with gold/silver nanoparticles having a size upto 150 nm supported on activated alumina and/or magnesia, said housing provided with an inlet

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connectable to water supply source and an outlet for decontaminated water, said outlet being provided with regulatory means.

6. (Withdrawn) A method of decontaminating water by removing pesticides such as chlorpyrifos, malathion or other organo halogen/sulphur pesticides comprising the step of allowing contaminated water to flow through a bed of gold/silver nanoparticles having a size upto 150 nm supported on activated alumina and/or magnesia to adsorb said pesticides and collecting decontaminated water flowing out of said bed.